

Appl. No. 09/548,728  
Amendment and/or Response  
Reply to Office action of 21 April 2005

Page 2 of 11

**Amendments to the Claims:**

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A method for limiting simultaneous copies of content material, comprising:
  - communicating a copy of the content material to a receiving device,
  - communicating a security challenge to the receiving device when the copy of the content material is communicated to the receiving device, and
  - receiving a security response, based on the security challenge, from the receiving device when the copy of the content material is removed from the receiving device.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including
  - verifying a certification of the receiving device before communicating the copy of the content material to the receiving device.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including
  - maintaining a count of the simultaneous copies of the content material, including:
    - incrementing the count when the copy of the content material is communicated to the receiving device, and
    - decrementing the count when the security response is received from the receiving device, and
    - wherein
    - communicating the copy of the content material is dependent upon the count of the simultaneous copies.

Appl. No. 09/548,728  
Amendment and/or Response  
Reply to Office action of 21 April 2005

Page 3 of 11

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including:  
generating a random number, and  
encrypting the random number via a public key of a public-private key pair  
that is associated with the receiving device to form the security challenge, and  
wherein  
the security response includes the random number.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further including  
verifying a certification of the receiving device before communicating the  
copy of the content material to the receiving device, and  
wherein  
the certification of the receiving device includes a public key of the public-  
private key pair of the receiving device.
6. (Original) A check-out/check-in device comprising:  
a catalog controller that is configured to provide a limited number of  
simultaneous copies of content material to one or more receiving devices,  
an encrypter that is configured to provide a security challenge to a  
receiving device of the one or more receiving devices when the catalog controller  
provides a copy of the content material to the receiving device, and  
a return verifier that is configured to:  
receive a security response from the receiving device when the  
copy of the content material is removed from the receiving device, and  
notify the catalog controller whether the security response  
corresponds to an appropriate response to the security challenge.

Appl. No. 09/548,728  
Amendment and/or Response  
Reply to Office action of 21 April 2005

Page 4 of 11

7. (Original) The check-out/check-in device of claim 6, further including  
a certification verifier that is configured to verify a certification of the  
receiving device, and  
wherein  
the catalog controller is further configured to provide the content material  
in dependence upon the certification of the receiving device.

8. (Original) The check-out/check-in device of claim 6, wherein  
the catalog controller is further configured to maintain a count of the  
simultaneous copies of the content material,  
wherein,  
the catalog controller is configured to:  
Increment the count when the copy of the content material is  
communicated to the receiving device, and  
decrement the count when the security response is received from  
the receiving device, and  
provide the copy of the content material in dependence upon the  
count of the simultaneous copies.

9. (Original) The check-out/check-in device of claim 6, wherein  
the encrypter is configured to encrypt a random number via a public key of  
a public-private key pair that is associated with the receiving device to form the  
security challenge, and  
the return verifier is configured to compare the security response to the  
random number to determine whether the security response corresponds to the  
appropriate response to the security challenge.

**Appl. No. 09/548,728**  
**Amendment and/or Response**  
**Reply to Office action of 21 April 2005**

**Page 5 of 11**

10. (Original) The check-out/check-in device of claim 9, further including  
a certification verifier that is configured to verify a certification of the  
receiving device, and  
wherein  
the catalog controller is further configured to provide the content material  
in dependence upon the certification of the receiving device, and  
the certification of the receiving device includes a public key of the public-  
private key pair of the receiving device.
11. (Original) A receiving device that receives content material and a  
corresponding security challenge from a check-out/check-in device, comprising:  
a memory that is configured to store the content material and the  
corresponding security challenge, and  
a security device that is configured to:  
erase the content material from the memory, and  
communicate a security response to the check-out/check-in device,  
based on the security challenge that is associated with the content material.
12. (Original) The receiving device of claim 11, wherein  
the security device is further configured to communicate a certification of  
the receiving device to the check-out/check-in device to enable the check-  
out/check-in device to provide the content material to the receiving device.
13. (Original) The receiving device of claim 11, wherein  
the security device includes:  
a decrypter that decrypts the security challenge via a private key of  
a public-private key pair that is associated with the receiving device to form the  
security response.

**Appl. No. 09/548,728**  
**Amendment and/or Response**  
**Reply to Office action of 21 April 2005**

**Page 6 of 11**

14. (Original) The receiving device of claim 13, wherein  
the security device is further configured to communicate a certification of  
the receiving device to the check-out/check-in device to enable the check-  
out/check-in device to provide the content material to the receiving device, and  
the certification of the receiving device includes a public key of the public-  
private key pair of the receiving device.